Boston, 21 Cornhill,
January 25. 1858.

Dear Mr. Webb -

I have, just this day, received yours of January 8. 1858, with its several enclosures, one being a Bank of Ireland bill for £33.5.1, drawn on the Bank of England. - The enclosures for Quincy and Pillsbury shall be forwarded. I have been intending to write to you by this week's Steamship, and will therefore immediately commence, and will first call attention to your account rendered:

1. You have evidently sent to me more money than you needed to send. - I had paid for the engravings (per Howadji) 16/8; also, $1. to S. H. Gay for the books, (which you say were Long's Narrative;) - he notified me that $1. was due to him on a book, or books, purchased for you, & that he was to call on me for it, so I sent it to him. In addition to these payments, I had still five dollars of yours on Advocate account, for year closing October last. remaining in my hands. So I shall have a little surplus due you; but I trust you will be receiving some anti slavery monies soon, to offset.

I will send with this an account, to the present time.

2. You ordered of me, some months since, a copy of J. Dixon's Long's Narrative, and I sent it to you about Nov. 13th. You must have received it before this, I think. I did not propose, however, to charge this to you, in consideration of your supposed loss of pictures & books, sent per "Howadji." So that may remain as it is - i.e. settled.

3. Mr. Steinthal's money for the "European" cannot be paid here. I ascertained in Newyork last May, and have the impression that I so informed you, that the publication of the "European" had, even then, ceased in this country, and was to be transferred (so they said at the office in N.Y. where the paper had been published) to London. This sum, 12/6, will also remain in my hands. — I can return it to you, & you repay it to him, or I can pay it over here, on any order he pleases to give.

Before closing this letter I hope to sell the Bill you sent me, and appropriate it in accordance with your account rendered, and furnish you with the exact balance in my hands.

As to the Gilroy matter, I expressed to you in a letter 2 weeks since my grief at all you had been obliged to suffer from that man, and my fear that your money lent was lost. — I know nothing of the man, never saw him; but Garrison has much confidence in his honesty, & He has Gay. About a week since, as the time of payment of the note drew on, I wrote to S. H. Gay, asking his kind help in the matter. He said in reply — "If you will send me Gilroy's note, I will do what I can about it, which, I fear, will be — nothing. I know he is very poor, & must, I am afraid, be even distressed to find support for his family. If he could publish his book, &c. &c. I suppose he would pay Webb, but I see no probability of that at present. Still I will ask him to pay the note, if you wish it."

After what you say, in y^r note to-day rec^d, of further letters from Gilroy, avowing his inability to pay you, - Spite of his assurances & protestations that he would certainly pay you at the time named - I shall not of course send the note to Gay, but retain it in my hands. - This I infer is what you desire I should do. I will at least wait further instructions from you. It seems to me it had better be in S.H. Gay's hands, or with Somebody in New York who could avail himself of any opportunity which might offer to get the money. - I do not at all fancy what Gilroy writes to you, about injuring him with people on this side. I understand it, that he does not wish you to make known the bare facts that he had borrowed a considerable sum of you, & has not repaid it; & that he importuned you for more; - and he wishes these facts to be suppressed, because the knowledge of them would stand altogether in his way of raising more money, by these loans, to which I am quite confident he will feel obliged to resort. Now, firstly, it is too late to suppress this knowledge. You have communicated it to me - I to Garrison and to Gay, - as yet, no others. But, secondly, I feel that it would not be right to conceal his large unpaid borrowings of you, while he is going on, (if my conjecture is right,) still borrowing of others, & all the time with increasing inability to pay, if only from the increased amount of his debt. Such transactions look almost dishonest in my eyes; the only alternative is to suppose the man not in his right mind; and in either case his money-operations sh^d be stopped.

I cannot explain how those pictures & books saved, from the "Howadji". I had been informed that the loss was total. The letter bag would be a thing quite likely to be saved, and perhaps these were in it.

You are too late in suggesting that nothing be sent to you for distribution. A box went - not a large one however - 2 weeks since, by the "Niagara" steamship, and I dare say it is on English ground by this time. The contents of the box were, mainly, Liberty Bells - we think this volume a very good one, and Stroud's Sketch of the Slave Laws, - a work that cannot fail to be useful in some hands. - I am sorry to find that you have so little faith in the circulation of these things in Gt. Britain, but it may be as you say that they do but little good. The box, however, is not very "costly" as you suppose. Five Dollars paid for all the Stroud's sent. Probably Fifty Dollars would have paid for all the remainder of the contents. - I prepaid the freight, to Liverpool.

I got the De la Rue box from the Custom House last week safe and in good order. It now lies at this office - its destination not fully decided.

Mr. Wallcut never received his Advocates for January. Mine came - the usual no. - but it took them all, to supply his subscribers, and even then one more was needed. Please send me half a dozen copies of the January No. that I may keep one in my files.

Jan. 26. I have sold the Draft, at rate of 9½ per cent - "exchange" being well up now, and it has brought $16. I shall not be able to give you a final acct. now, as I have not time to make the payment.

I have just been reading to Garrison what you say of Gilroy. Garrison says he 'feels his conscience clear as to any encouragement given to Gilroy, in regard to pursuing his plan of publication'. 'I saw', says he 'the value and the beauty of his illustrations, but told him expressly he could find no remunerating sale here, nor did I believe he could in England; - that it was all in vain to argue from the success of "Uncle Tom's Cabin";- his being a ~~historical work~~, voluminous and costly.' This he repeated to him in conversation and by letter, again and again. He advised him to publish the illustrations by themselves, or with a small amount of letter-press; but it was the whole or nothing with him. - Gilroy it seems obtained $50. of F. Jackson and $50. of Mr. Phillips, writing a "frantic letter", as Garrison describes it, about the sickness and sufferings of his family; - these sums are not repaid, and Garrison supposes he is "owing thousands". — I really wish some of the New York publishers had the manliness to undertake his book. Some of them are laying out immense sums of money in printing, illustrating, & binding editions of the poets, and some works of a very superficial & trashy character. But there is hardly a book-publisher in New York whose soul is his own, or who dares pretend that it is.

Do you see F. Douglass's paper? He has recently poured two broadsides at yourself and the

little Advocate, for its exposure of Julius Griffiths's pecuniary interest in J. D.s Concerns. He endeavours to fix all manner of stigma and odium upon you. I trust that Powell made no mistake in the information he gave you. His attention has been called to Douglas's denial of your statements. — Mr. Garrison expresses strongly the hope that you will take no notice of Douglass nor of his articles, as a controversy with you, or with any of us, is almost the only thing left him, to bolster up his corrupt and dishonest concern. His articles against you are chiefly slang and venom, and may be passed by with as little notice as would be taken of a very small, noisy cur.

S. H. Gay has resigned the editorship of the Standard. He says he has long been thinking that, for his family's sake, he must betake himself to some occupation which would be more remunerative, and at the same time less exhausting to his physical strength, than his present one; and the present financial crisis in the Society's affairs seems to him an appropriate time to move. The Com^tee accept his resignation, wh. is to take effect on the 1st of March. The Comtee are now anxiously looking about for the best editor for the "Standard". I think it will result in retaining O. Johnson in the editorial chair for the present, though an effort will be made to get Mrs. Chapman (this is between us)

to take the place of editor-in-chief.

Kansas affairs are in a state of extraordinary complication, and as the Administration has no wish to disentangle the web, and does not dare to cut through the knots, and give liberty to that much-abused territory, there seems little prospect that justice will be done or the popular vote (which went by an immense majority in favour of making it a free State) regarded & carried out. The latest telegraphic report - I can't write telegram yet - is that [redacted] the President of the Kansas ("Bogus") Senate has set aside the votes given on the 4th of January (when the people gave a vote of 10.000 majority for a free State) as irregular, illegal, & therefore void; thus giving the Territory & the incipient State into the hands of the Pro-Slavery Border Ruffian Democracy; - as clear a case of usurpation, of despotic rule, of tyrannical trampling on the popular will & sovereignty, as ever existed. President Buchanan is running himself down and out, more rapidly than any President the country has seen. His measures have distracted the counsels of his own supporters. He has promised opposite things to opposite parties, and his knavery must ere long be plainly visible to the sight of all.

I hope soon to send you a brief Memoir of Caprain M. Clay; also, one of Mrs. Lydia Maria Child for the Glasgow Biography. I don't know as Mrs. Child will allow hers to go; - she is very sensitive about such matters. I ought to hear something direct from that

Glasgow publisher. Indeed I must not be relied upon to go on working, as now, in the dark. –

I will seek an opportunity to send you another "Representative Women". – Long since you asked for some kind of a photograph of my humble self. I take badly. I have been trying to get something for an English cousin of mine, now in this country, but succeed very indifferently. Among the number taken, I will send you one, if an opp°. comes. I wonder if it will call up the least recollection to your mind of my visage as it appeared in Dublin in 1843, – when you met us (my bro.t myself) first at R. Allen's, – then planned us an excursion, by car, out to the Dargle (if I have the name right), &c. &c. – again met us at the house of your brother, out of town; – then took us to your hospitable home in Brunswick St. for the night; – whence we left next day, per Railway to Kingstown, and by Steamer to Holyhead?

But good night, dear friend. With sincere respect, and heartfelt thanks for your generous aid in, and devoted service to, our hard-beset but noble righteous cause, I am, as ever, Yours

Samuel May, Jr

Advocate Business.

Did I notify you that J. Wilson Jr. had ceased to be a Subscriber to Advocate? You will therefore send me, hereafter, one copy less.

Send (beginning with January N°.) the "Advocate" to Susan B. Anthony, Rochester, N.Y., (U.S.). (separate copy